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LETTER DATED 12 AUGUST 1994 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On 8 December 1990, the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya notified the Secretary-General that, on 7 December 1990, a C-141 aircraft belonging to the United States Air Force had transported 200 Libyan prisoners from N'Djamena, Chad, to an unknown destination. In that communication, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya affirmed that this act constituted a breach of international custom and covenants and of human rights principles and a violation of the Geneva Conventions relative to the treatment of prisoners.

In its letter bringing this information to the attention of the Secretary-General, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya made it clear that this act had been planned in advance for premeditated political motives, as was actually demonstrated when certain United States agencies began subjecting these prisoners to intensive military training. On 16 December 1991, the London-based newspaper Al-Hayat published an inquiry into the matter that states, inter alia, that its correspondents visited a camp in the State of Virginia for training the Libyans whom the United States had airlifted from Chad, where they had previously been training under the supervision of Colonel Robert Bagi, the former United States Ambassador to Chad. The same Colonel Bagi had also drawn up the plans for their stay in the United States and for training them to perform acts of sabotage against the Jamahiriya. On the page in question, it was stated that Al-Hayat's correspondent had interviewed "Khalifah Haftar", who affirmed that the Americans had demonstrated their full readiness to provide any type of training for carrying out acts of coercion against the Jamahiriya by land or by sea.

The United States' insistence on retaining these prisoners and its persistence in training and equipping them can only be interpreted as a part of a scheme for launching acts of hostility, so that they may be enticed and motivated to engage in acts designed to undermine security and stability. I therefore reiterate to you my country's request for the resumption of contacts with the United States Government and a plea for a halt to these acts and the release of these prisoners, who should be enabled to return to their country, their families and their relatives.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mohamed A. AZAWI
Permanent Representative